

My name is Meg Tuomala and I am an on-air DJ at WXYC-Chapel Hill, a free format station on the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill campus.

I'm not a musician, but I know that the station I work for plays a lot of local music. We also have a specialty show each week that showcases new releases from local artists and promotes shows and concerts that are happening around town during the coming week. DJs at WXYC are encouraged to play local artists during their shows and announce when their shows are taking place. We also announce PSAs that concern mostly non-music related happenings in the area.

A definition of local programming should include "locally originated" and "locally produced" music, with heavier emphasis on the former. The FCC should ensure that all programming decisions are made at the local station level.

Local music and other entertainment programs should most definitely count as local programming.

I feel that stations should want to participate in and promote local community activities, but I do not think there should be "requirements."

I do not know the various types of payola practices that occur today, but I do not think that an artist doing a free concert for a radio station should count as payola. I also do not think that bands/ labels should be able to buy an advertisement space and then tell the station to fill it with their song.

I do not agree with the practice of voice-tracking. I feel that the station has a responsibility to the local community to serve local interests (such as hiring local DJs that have a connection with their local audience and scene) and the practice of voice-tracking should be eliminated, or at least regulated by the FCC and hopefully reduced.

The FCC should require that all programming be regulated at the local level. Stations should be required to play a certain percentage of local content.

LPFM stations are great. They serve as a great benefit to the local music community, and more should be established, in rural and metro areas.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to respond to this issue. I sincerely hope that you will recognize and address my comments and concerns.